IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: ORTHOPEDIC BONE SCREW

MDL NO. 1014

PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION,

ORDER

AND NOW, this 20th day of March, 2014, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel's Motion to Distribute Residual Class Settlement Funds is **GRANTED**.

Pursuant to this Court's authority to permit *cy pres* awards, the Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel are ORDERED to distribute the residual class settlement funds in their Acromed Litigation Fund in the amount of \$222,494.37 (less or more any unknown taxable event or fees) to Penn Medicine's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery to support the creation of an endowed travel fund to allow those training in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery to perform orthopedic work in underserved areas across the globe.

BY THE COURT:

RONALD L. BUCKWALTER, S. J.

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN	RE:	ORT	HOI	PEDIC	BON	IE SC	REW	:
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MDL Docket No. 1014

PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION:

ORDER

AND	NOW, this	day of	, 2011, it is hereby ORDERED that the
Plaintiffs' Li	aison Counsel's N	Motion to Distribute	Residual Class Settlement Funds is
GRANTED.	Pursuant to this	Court's authority to	permit cy pres awards, the Plaintiffs' Liaison
Counsel are	ordered to distrib	oute the residual clas	s settlement funds in their Acromed Litigation
		-	any unknown taxable event or fees) to Penn
Medicine's land of the second	Department of O to Supp EL Fund and with the ry to f en SERV	ont the control on the control of th	Complex Spine Surgery Program=Western I IS TICH OF AN ENDOWED WHOSE TRAINING IT THE JIBY THE COURT: OR FITO PEDIC WORKIN S ACCORT HIS IEBE. Buckwalter, J.
UNU	-		Buckwalter, J.

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: ORTHOPEDIC BONE SCREW:

MDL Docket No. 1014

PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION:

PLAINTIFFS' LIAISON COUNSEL'S MOTION TO DISTRIBUTE RESIDUAL CLASS SETTLEMENT FUNDS

I. INTRODUCTION

On October 17, 1997, this Court (Judge Bechtle) approved a limited fund settlement between the Plaintiffs Legal Committee ("PLC") and the Acromed Corporation. As part of its administrative efforts, the PLC took on the obligation of representing numerous Acromed recipients as clients. Thanks to the representation of the PLC, these Acromed clients participated in the Acromed Settlement to the fullest extent possible. Over the course of the many years since its approval, the settlement has been overseen by this Court, the PLC and the Claims Administrator, Robert E. Welsh, Jr. Like other Acromed settlement claimants, the PLC's Acromed clients were issued settlement checks consistent with existing procedures and protocols. Unfortunately, due to unknown circumstances, numerous PLC Acromed clients have not negotiated their payments or have been lost to the PLC despite our best efforts to locate these clients and inform them of their rewards.

The PLC therefore submits that because the funds remaining in the PLC's Acromed Litigation Fund are *de minimus*, *i.e.*, too little to justify any further effort by the PLC to locate these clients that have been lost or fail to cash their settlement checks, now is the time to request that the Court allow the PLC to donate the remaining money to an appropriate charity.

1

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

After many efforts to locate PLC clients to distribute the awards to PLC Acromed clients of their Acromed Settlement shares, \$222,494.37 remain to be distributed in the PLC's Acromed Litigation Fund. See Register Report attached hereto as Exhibit "A". This small amount continues to sit dormant in the PLC's escrow account.

The clients have become lost to the PLC. They are non-responsive and/or have moved from their last known residence. It appears that the available balance to distribute has become too small to justify further efforts to dispense this money. Whatever amounts are available would prove to be too *de minimus* to attempt to disburse. Thus, Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel proposes that the remaining funds be donated to an appropriate charity. Specifically, the PLC has located an appropriate recipient of these funds: Penn Medicine's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Complex Spine Surgery Program—Western Carribean. This program works in conjunction with the Princess Elizabeth Center for Handicapped Children in Port of Spain, Trinidad to provide care for children with complex orthopedic disorders. *See* Exhibit "B" attached hereto. The work performed by Penn Medicine is largely supported by philanthropic contributions. The distribution of the remaining unclaimed funds held by the PLC would fit hand-in-glove with such a program given the orthopedic nature of the claims that created the money available to distribute.

III. ARGUMENT

In the class action context, courts have employed cy pres principles to distribute class damages or settlement funds for the benefit of the class where actual distribution to class

¹In this vein, the PLC has waived any fee with regard to distribution of these monies.

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members is impracticable because of the difficulty in identifying individual claimants and the excessively high cost of administering individual consumer recoveries. A *cy pres* distribution is typically approved where, as here, it is difficult, if not impossible, to locate individual class members or when individual recoveries would be so small as to make distribution economically impracticable. *See State of New York v. Reebok Int'l Ltd.*, 96 F.3d 44, 49 (2d Cir. 1996) ("Reebok") (*cy pres* distribution appropriate where administration and distribution costs would consume a large portion of settlement fund); *In re Toys 'R' Us Antitrust Litig.*, 191 F.R.D. 347, 353 (E.D. N.Y. 2000) ("Toys 'R' Us"). In *Toys 'R' Us*, the court stated that the "decision to forego individual recoveries was sensible, given the difficulty of identifying proper claimants and the difficulty, and especially the cost, that such recoveries and their administration would have entailed." *Toys 'R' Us*, 191 F.R.D. at 353; *see also Reebok*, 96 F.3d at 49 (the Second Circuit observed that the "impracticability of attempting to distribute the settlement proceeds among the multitude of unidentified possible claimants is obvious.").

Generally, the *cy pres* funds are paid to a third party such as a charitable organization or agency for use for designated purposes. *In re Baby Products Antitrust Litigation*, 708 F.3d 163, 172 (3d Cir. 2013). In addition to the financial benefits a *cy pres* recovery indirectly confers on a consumer settlement class, approving a *cy pres* recovery plan in this instance further serves the interests of both the plaintiffs and the general public by disgorging settling defendants of any ill-gotten gains and by deterring future malfeasance. *See Reebok*, 903 F.Supp. at 537 ("The distribution method here served the general public interests, the interests of the plaintiffs and the consumers and the public interest of disgorgement and deterrence"); *Toys 'R' Us*, 191 F.R.D. at 356 ("The Settlements, with their significant monetary costs to the defendants, must be evaluated

not only in terms of their direct value to the public but also in terms of their deterrent effect on antitrust violators, an effect of value to consumers").²

IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Liaison Counsel respectfully requests that the Court order that the remaining funds held in the PLC's Acromed litigation Fund (less or more any unknown taxable event or fees) be disbursed to an appropriate charity, *i.e.*, Penn Medicine Department of Orthopedic Surgery Complex Spine Surgery Program—Western Carribean. A proposed Order is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 17, 2013

By: /s/ Fred S. Longer

Arnold Levin, Esquire
Michael D. Fishbein, Esquire
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LEVIN, FISHBEIN, SEDRAN & BERMAN
510 Walnut Street, Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: (215) 592-1500

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PLAINTIFFS' LIAISON COUNSEL

Other, ample authority exists for making such awards. See In re Infant Formula Multidistrict Litig., 2005 WL 2211312, at *2-*3 (N.D. Fla. Sept. 8, 2005) (\$1,010,073.17 unclaimed funds donated to the American Red Cross); Schwartz v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Ltd., 362 F.Supp.2d 574, 576-77 (E.D. Pa. 2005) (\$436,000 donated to NFL Youth Education Town Centers); In re Motorsports Merchandise Antitrust Litig., 160 F.Supp.2d 1392 (N.D. Ga. 2001) (\$2.4 million of unclaimed settlement funds donated to nine charities); In re Mexico Money Transfer Litig., 164 F.Supp.2d 1002, 1031-34 (N.D. Ill. 2000), aff'd, 267 F.3d 743 (7th Cir. 2001), cert. denied, 535 U.S. 1018 (2002) (\$4.6 million donated to charities); Powell v. Georgia-Pacific Corp., 119 F.3d 703 (8th Cir. 1997) (\$1 million donation to scholarship funds); Superior Beverage Co. v. Owens-Illinois, Inc., 827 F.Supp. 477 (N.D. Ill. 1993) (\$2 million donated to 14 non-profit legal groups, law schools and an art museum).

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: ORTHOPEDIC BONE SCREW:

MDL Docket No. 1014

PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION:

PLAINTIFFS' LIAISON COUNSEL'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISTRIBUTE RESIDUAL CLASS SETTLEMENT FUNDS

Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel has filed a Motion to Distribute Residual Class Settlement Funds. For the reasons set forth in the motion, it is respectfully requested that the relief requested be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 17, 2013

By: /s/ Fred S. Longer

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Michael D. Fishbein, Esquire
Fred S. Longer, Esquire
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PLAINTIFFS' LIAISON COUNSEL

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EXHIBIT A

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Register Report - All Dates

2/9/1999 through 04/26/2013

Date	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Clr	Amount
- 1 1						
6/30/20		Allen Fisher	PTO #2166	Settlement		-6,485.97
12/16/20		Amy Polk-White	PTO #2134	Settlement		-2,243.07
6/30/20		Ann Thomas	PTO #2166	Settlement		-926.57
6/30/20		Arthur Ray	PTO #2166	Settlement	,	-787.66
6/30/20		Barbara Brenzel	PTO #2166	Settlement		-3,119.08
6/30/20		Bennie Harris	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,918.47
6/30/20		Betty Jones	PTO #2166	Settlement		-5,250.54
6/30/20		Bobby Quinn	PTO #2166	Settlement		-1,853.14
12/16/20		Carl Arvin	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,035.27
6/30/20		Carl Kurtz	PTO #2166	Settlement		-85.18
6/30/20	08 3088	Catherine Williams	PTO #2166	Settlement		-1,116.09
6/30/20	08 3211	Charles Ethridge	PTO #2166	Settlement		-1,853.14
6/30/20		Cheryl Letson	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,869.53
6/30/20	08 3197	Cheryl Stoll	PTO #2166	Settlement		-1,425.52
6/30/20	08 3190	Christina Kincaid	PTO #2166	Settlement		-1,853.14
12/16/20	05 2685	Cindy McCann	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,725.45
12/16/20	05 2926	Curtis Stinson	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,552.90
6/30/20	008 3272	Daniel Lacy (Estate)	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,779.70
12/16/20	005 2844	Daniel Lozano	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,552.90
12/16/20	005 2889	David Agnew	PTO #2134	Settlement		-2,464.20
2/20/20	006 2940	David Sircloumb	PTO #2139	Settlement		-3,872.31
6/30/20	008 3148	Deanna Horn	PTO #2166	Settlement		-463.28
12/16/20	005 2762	Donald Boles	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,035.27
6/30/20	008 3136	Donald Campbell, Jr.	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,470.85
6/30/20	008 3218	Donna Dreher	PTO #2166	Settlement		-4,015.13
12/16/20	005 2701	Dwane Sparkman	PTO #2134	Settlement		-2,070.54
6/30/20	008 3061	Elmer Scott Jr.	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,081.51
12/16/20	05 2859	Ernest Wood	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,035.27
12/16/20	005 2893	Ernestine Davis	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,056.09
6/30/20		Evelyn Russell	PTO #2166	Settlement		-3,397.41
6/30/20		Evelynlene Elkins	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,470.85
12/16/20	005 2857	Frank Perry Jr.	PTO #2134	Settlement		-517.63
12/16/20	005 2887	Gail Sherron	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,725.45
12/16/20	005 2700	Gerald McMenamin	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,035.27
12/16/20	005 2882	Gerry Lane	PTO #2134	Settlement		-1,725.45
12/16/20		Gerry Wells McNay	PTO #2134	Settlement		-2,992.25
6/30/20		Harold Krammes	PTO #2166	Settlement		-1,691.58
6/30/20		Harry Chambers	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,470.85
6/30/20		lvan Fredrickson	PTO #2166	Settlement		-2,470.85
6/30/20		James Smith	PTO #2166	Settlement		-821.33

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12/16/2005	2852	James Williams	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,070.54
12/16/2005	2917	Janice Williams	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,056.09
6/30/2008	3069	Jeffrey Johnson	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
6/30/2008	3284	Jeffrey Mankiewicz	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
6/30/2008	3032	Jerry Orange	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
6/30/2008	3089	Jimmy Miller	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
6/30/2008	3188	Joan Kemple-Lopus	PTO #2166	Settlement	-3,706.26
12/16/2005	2867	John Cotten	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,725.45
6/30/2008	3224	John Mitchell	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,951.12
12/16/2005	2849	Joseph Baron	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,207.82
12/16/2005	2932	Joseph Baron	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,584.13
6/30/2008	3107	Judith Taglieri	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
6/30/2008	3267	Julie Rehman	PTO #2166	Settlement	-945.2
6/30/2008	3248	June Dunleavy	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,625.28
12/16/2005	2845	Kamalaben Shah	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,035.27
6/30/2008	3277	Karen Underwood	PTO #2166	Settlement	-472.6
6/30/2008	3237	Kathleen Corbett	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
6/30/2008	2991	Kenneth Connolly	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1 <u>,</u> 961.49
6/30/2008	3199	Kevin Asher	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
6/30/2008	3037	Kim Christensen	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
12/16/2005	2880	Kimberly Baehl	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,552.90
6/30/2008	3109	L. Benner	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
6/30/2008	3254	Lana Mellies-Culver	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,205.46
6/30/2008	3003	Larry Reese	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
12/16/2005	2838	Laura Pello	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,035.27
12/16/2005	2779	Leslie Paul	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,760.72
6/30/2008	3090	Louis Matthews	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
6/30/2008	3161	Marcia Herzog	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
12/16/2005	2928	Maria Loper	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,288.18
6/30/2008	3039	Marilyn Rightsell	PTO #2166	Settlement	-3,397.41
6/30/2008	3105	Marion Gazdik	PTO #2166	Settlement	-463.63
6/30/2008	3126	Mark Andrews	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,779.70
6/30/2008	3249	Marvin Applin	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,205.46
12/16/2005	2797	Mary Drew	PTO #2134	Settlement	-1,035.27
12/16/2005	2801	Mary Hovick	PTO #2134	Settlement	-148.44
6/30/2008	3285	Melvin Taylor	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,520.54
6/30/2008	3050	Michael Ballard	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
12/16/2005	2745	Michael Branca	PTO #2134	Settlement	-517.63
12/16/2005	2919	Michael Ruiz	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,112.17
6/30/2008	3223	Michelle Ybarra	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,280.72
6/30/2008	3022	Mildred Gross	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,402.24
12/16/2005	2775	Nancy Swan	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,070.54
6/30/2008	3014	Norma Anderson	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
6/30/2008	3227	Norman Coffin Sr.	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
6/30/2008	3167	Norman Olsen	PTO #2166	Settlement	-580.97
6/30/2008	3203	Patricia Megna	PTO #2166	Settlement	-685.23
6/30/2008	3046	Patrick Totten	PTO #2166	Settlement	-509.18

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6/30/2008	3244	Pedro Adame	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
6/30/2008	3279	Pedro Torres	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,890.40
6/30/2008	3255	Phillip Bivins	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
6/30/2008	3006	Richard Duganich	PTO #2166	Settlement	-4,518.58
6/30/2008	3239	Richard Heinrich	PTO #2166	Settlement	-3,397.41
6/30/2008	3013	Richard Schermerhorn	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,972.39
6/30/2008	3110	Robert Robinett	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,670.58
6/30/2008	3278	Robert Tyree	PTO #2166	Settlement	-945.2
1/2/2002	1942	Rodger North	PTO #2044	Settlement	-1,366.59
12/16/2005	2746	Rodger North	PTO #2134	Settlement	-517.63
6/30/2008	3048	Roger Blom	PTO #2166	Settlement	-463.28
12/16/2005	2929	Roger Oswald	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,070.54
6/30/2008	3214	Roger Pulsipher	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,470.85
6/30/2008	3085	Ronald Frost Sr.	PTO #2166	Settlement	-86.21
6/30/2008	3264	Rose Mari Karnik	PTO #2166	Settlement	-154.43
6/30/2008	3180	Rosina Gillen	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
6/30/2008	3113	Roxanne Baumeister	PTO #2166	Settlement	-2,137.19
6/30/2008	3008	Sandra Harlow	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,782.63
12/16/2005	2876	Sheila Dalzin	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,760.72
12/16/2005	2767	Stacey Fortson	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,760.72
6/30/2008	3095	Steve Sutton	PTO #2166	Settlement	-107.53
6/30/2008	3191	Steven Vaughn	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,643.83
6/30/2008	3102	Susan Becker	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
1/2/2002	2056	Suzanne Kasecamp (Estate)	PTO #2044	Settlement	-2,752.70
6/30/2008	3286	Sydney Wood (Estate)	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14
6/30/2008	3240	Thomas Bryant	PTO #2166	Settlement	-4,015.13
12/16/2005	2716	Thomas Fitzpatrick	PTO #2134	Settlement	-2,760.72
6/30/2008	3120	Thomas Schoenbeck	PTO #2166	Settlement	-3,397.41
6/30/2008	3274	Timothy Wysong	PTO #2166	Settlement	-3,397.41
6/30/2008	3042	Victoria Steele	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,181.91
6/30/2008	3184	William Sauls Sr.	PTO #2166	Settlement	-926.57
6/30/2008	3114	William Young	PTO #2166	Settlement	-1,853.14

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EXHIBIT B

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PENN MEDICINE

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Complex Spine Surgery Program: Western Caribbean

CONTENTS

Complex Spine Surgery Program

Organization & Funding

The Penn Medicine Mission



Penn Medicine's Complex Spine Surgery Program in the Western Caribbean

Since 1953 the Princess Elizabeth Center for Handicapped Children in Port of Spain, Trinidad has provided care for children with complex orthopaedic disorders. Dr. David Toby, Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Princess Elizabeth Center, has been overseeing the Center's Scoliosis Program for the past 25 years. Starting in 2006, Dr. Vincent Arlet, Chief of Spine Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania, began traveling to Trinidad to assist Dr. Toby with scoliosis and orthopaedic surgeries.

The setup of a complex spine deformity surgical program in a country like Trinidad presents many challenges. Penn Orthopaedics is proud to be able to offer expert support in patient care and training through this valuable partnership.





Dr. David Toby, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Princess Elizabeth Center and Dr. Vincent Arlet, Chief of Spine Surgery, University of Pennsylvania

Establishing a Team

Dr. Toby is the only spinal deformity surgeon on the island of Trinidad and receives referrals from across the West Indies to perform scoliosis and pediatric orthopaedic surgery. For these complex cases a team approach is required; two experienced spine surgeons, an anesthesiologist specializing in total intravenous anesthesia, an electrophysiology technician to monitor the spinal cord throughout the procedure and experienced OR nurses. Our key team members are Dr. Toby and Dr. Arlet, Dr. Rodney Benjamin, and dedicated OR nurses, like Geeta Pollard. Ms. Pollard has traveled to the US to study with Dr. Arlet and observe nursing and OR techniques, to improve and bring the nursing skills required for complex spine surgery back to Trinidad.

Pre (Images A,B) and post operative (Images C,D) photographs and x-rays of a 22 years old girl with a 89 degrees scoliosis.







Image B



Image C

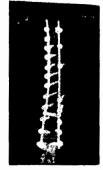


Image D





Drs. Roby and Arlet operating in Trinidad

Training Penn's Future Leaders Through Humanitarian Experience

By sending Penn faculty to Trinidad, we are enriching the education experience for Penn Orthopaedic's residents and fellows, while simultaneously providing a service to this community. Our goal is to endow a program that funds annual resident travel to Trinidad, and other international areas in need, to assist with complicated surgeries in challenging environments. Having a spinal deformity outreach program is highly beneficial for an academic orthopaedic program, as it allows residents and fellows the ability to gain critical experience for their developing careers. We believe that providing travel opportunities for residents while they are in training will deepen their dedication to providing care to those in need. Traveling to less privileged areas and experiencing, first-hand, the medical care available can instill a lifelong passion for service in these residents and a more in-depth understanding of their field.

Funding Travel

With recent restrictions on available funding for residents and physicians, travel to countries in need has become increasingly difficult. Through philanthropic contributions from generous donors we can establish a formal, structured program to enhance the training of our residents. Dr. Arlet typically completes four rotations a year, each lasting five or six days- four spent in the operating room. With a gift of \$200,000 to the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery's Resident Travel Endowment, we can provide annual travel stipends for two orthopaedic residents to travel to underserved countries, and train under conditions drastically different than those they accustomed to. Upon their return, their experiences give Penn Orthopaedics an advantage in continuing to treat some of the most complex cases in the region.

To learn more about this initiative and other ways to support the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, please contact Vanessa White, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations for the University of Pennsylvania Health System, at vanwhite@upenn.edu or (215)898-9692.



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The Penn Medicine Mission

Penn Medicine, a non-profit organization, is a worldrenowned institution dedicated to discoveries that will
advance science and patient care throughout the world,
and to the education of the physicians and scientists of
tomorrow to carry on our legacy of excellence.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the forgoing Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel's Motion to Distribute Residual Class Settlement Funds was electronically filed with the Clerk of Court of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania by using the CM/ECF System, which will send a notice of electronic filing in accordance with the procedures established in MDL 1014 on this 17th day of May, 2013.

/s/ Fred S. Longer

Arnold Levin, Esquire
Michael D. Fishbein, Esquire
Fred S. Longer, Esquire
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Fax: (215) 592-4663

CASES APPROVING A CY PRES DISTRIBUTION

Ripley v. Sunoco, Inc., 287 F.R.D. 300, 316 (E.D. Pa. 2012) (Robreno, J.)

Approval of Reversionary Interest Beneficiary

Lastly, at oral argument, Plaintiffs indicated any residual or unclaimed funds from the settlement would revert to a mutually agreed upon beneficiary. Upon the Court's order, the parties informed the Court that the cy pres beneficiary in this case would be Philadelphia Area Project on Occupational Safety and Health ("PhilaPOSH"). PhilaPOSH is an organization comprised of unions, health, and legal professionals focused on health and safety concerns faced by workers and their unions. See PhilaPOSH Mission Statement, http:// www. philaposh. org/mission_statement. htm (last visited June 25, 2012). Since its founding in 1975, PhilaPOSH's mission has been "the prevention of injury, disease and death on the job through information, education, technical assistance and political action." Id. After review of PhilaPOSH's background and mission statement, and upon agreement of the parties, the Court designates PhilaPOSH as the cy pres beneficiary in this case.

Cosgrove v. Citizens Auto. Finance, Inc., No. Civ.A.09-1095, 2011 WL 3740809, at *7–8 (E.D. Pa. Aug. 25, 2011) (Schiller, J.)

9. Cy pres

Finally, the settlement provides that the residue of unclaimed checks shall be distributed on a cy pres basis to Community Legal Services of Philadelphia and Mid-Penn Legal Services in equal shares. Both organizations provide consumer credit education and similar services. (Pl.'s Mot. for Approval 23.) The Court finds these are worthy cy pres recipients, as they will help to redress the types of wrongs alleged in this litigation. See Perry v. FleetBoston Fin. Corp., 229 F.R.D. 105, 117 (E.D.Pa.2005) (discussing the appropriateness of cy pres distribution in consumer credit class actions involving relatively small individual recoveries).

In re Baby Products Antitrust Litigation, 708 F.3d 163, 176 (3d Cir. 2013) (Ambro, J.)

We place no absolute requirement on the amount of direct compensation the third category of claimants must receive. Courts of appeals have approved cy pres distributions where all class members submitting claims have already been fully compensated for their damages by prior distributions. See, e.g., In re Lupron Mktg. & Sales Practices Litig., 677 F.3d 21, 34–35 (1st Cir.2012). A cy pres distribution is considered appropriate in that circumstance because additional

individual distributions would "overcompensat [e] claimant class members at the expense of absent class members." Id. at 35 (citing In re Pharm. Indus., 588 F.3d at 34–36). We agree, but do not limit cy pres distributions to instances where all claimants have received 100% of their estimated damages. As the parties explain, the \$5 payment to claimants in the third category can be seen as compensation for a full release of their claims rather than as an attempt to compensate them for their damages. Indeed, provided the class as a whole received sufficient direct benefit, it would not have been unreasonable to eliminate the \$5 category altogether and require class members to submit documentary proof to receive any award. We do not intend to raise the bar for obtaining approval of a class action settlement simply because it includes a cy pres provision.

Gates v. Rohm and Haas Co., No. Civ.A.06-1743, 2011 WL 1103683, at *2, 5 (E.D. Pa. Mar. 24, 2011) (Pratter, J.)

CY PRES DISTRIBUTION

"When an aggregate class recovery is not fully allocated to class members, the unclaimed portion may be distributed for the indirect or partial benefit of the class under cy pres principles." 3 Alba Conte & Herbert B. Newberg, Newberg on Class Actions § 10:16 (4th ed.2002). In the class action context, courts have used cy pres principles to distribute remaining unclaimed settlement funds to accomplish an indirect benefit for the class. See In re Linerboard Antitrust Litig., MDL No. 1261, 2008 WL 4542669 (E.D.Pa. Oct.3, 2008) (applying the cy pres doctrine in distributing unclaimed settlement funds in a class action); Schwartz v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Ltd., 362 F.Supp.2d 574 (E.D.Pa.2005) (applying cy pres principles to determine the distribution of excess class settlement funds); In re Matzo Food Prods. Litig., 156 F.R.D. 600, 605 (D.N.J.1994) (discussing cy pres as a principle for possible distribution of remaining funds in the context of preliminary approval). FN2 Courts generally "have approved charitable donations to organizations geared toward combating harms similar to those that the injured the class members. Such a donation may serve the cy pres principle of indirectly benefitting all class members." Linerboard, 2008 WL 4542669, at *3 (quotations and citations omitted).

"Federal courts have broad discretionary powers in shaping equitable decrees for distributing unclaimed class action funds." Six (6) Mexican Workers v. Arizona Citrus Growers, 904 F.2d 1301, 1307 (9th Cir.1990) (citing Van Gemert v. Boeing Co., 739 F.2d 730, 737 (2d Cir.1984)). In applying cy pres principles, the court appropriately may consider: "(1) the objectives of the underlying statute(s), (2) the nature of the underlying suit, (3) the interests of the class members, and (4) the geographic scope of the case." Schwartz, 362 F.Supp.2d at 576 (citing In re Airline Ticket Comm'n Antitrust Litig., 307 F.3d 679, 682 (8th Cir.2002)). Additionally, the Court recognizes that, even in the absence of any philanthropic interests previously expressed by the Class or by counsel, a "frequent use of class

funds not accruing to the class members is a donation to a public or otherwise non-profit entity combating harms similar to those that injured the class members." Jones v. Nat'l Distillers, 56 F.Supp.2d 355, 358 (S.D.N.Y.1999); see also Linerboard, 2008 WL 4542669, at *3 (recognizing the same).

. .

The Court determines that the cy pres distributions to MCCF, JEPF, MCHS District 156 Foundation, and NHN are appropriate, recognizing that such distributions indirectly benefit the class members, because they are made to organizations that serve McCullom Village, McHenry County, and school districts for, or adjacent to, McCullom Village. Furthermore, the Settlement Agreement only provided general guidelines for the disposition of the unclaimed funds, and within the Agreement's provisions there is no obvious limiting requirement for the excess funds to benefit only class members, particularly given that the funds were provided first to give class members the particular benefit of medical monitoring. Under similar circumstances, courts have recognized the propriety of distributing unclaimed funds for broader public interest, charitable, and educational purposes. See Jones, 56 F.Supp.2d at 359 ("W]hile use of funds for purposes closely related to their origin is still the best cy pres application, the doctrine of cy pres and courts' broad equitable powers now permit use of funds for other public interest purposes by educational, charitable, and other public service organizations." (citing Superior Beverage Co. v. Owens-Illinois, Inc., 827 F.Supp. 477, 478-79 (N.D.III.1993) (collecting cases)); Newberg, supra § 10.24 ("In cases where the parties have not agreed as part of a settlement for the disposition of such unclaimed balance, the court ... may order the residual monies to be distributed to a use completely unrelated to the injured class members, such as to an educational institution, to a recognized charity or public service organization"). The organizations proposed here promote public interest, charitable, and educational purposes consistent with the general focus of this settlement.

Although JEPF, MCHS District 156 Foundation, and NHN appear to be deserving recipients of cy pres funds, the Court nonetheless deems it appropriate to condition their cy pres distributions. First, the Court was able to confirm through available public records that Gavers and MCCF are presently registered with the Illinois Attorney General as charitable organizations and file Charitable Organization Annual Reports so as to be eligible under applicable state law to receive any unclaimed settlement funds as a donation. See 760 Ill. Comp. Stat. 55/1 et seq. (Charitable Trust Act); 225 Ill. Comp. Stat. 460/1 et seq. (Solicitation for Charity Act). The Court, however, was unable to confirm such information for JEPF, MCHS District 156 Foundation, and NHN. Second, because NHN has only applied for 501(c)(3) status, it does not presently constitute a 501(c)(3) organization pursuant to the Settlement Agreement. Based on these considerations, JEPF, MCHS District 156 Foundation, and NHN may only receive the proposed cy pres distributions to the extent those organizations, by December

31, 2011, provide Liaison Counsel and Modine with the appropriate documentation to establish that the organization is registered with the Illinois Attorney General and is in compliance with state law requirements, and, specific to NHN only, that the Internal Revenue Service recognizes NHN as a 501(c)(3) organization. If JEPF, MCHS District 156 Foundation, or NHN are not able to meet these conditions, the organization's respective allocation shall be, as previously discussed, distributed to Gavers.

Rosenau v. Unifund Corp., 646 F. Supp. 2d 743, 755-56 (E.D. Pa. 2009) (Rufe, J.)

C. Cy Pres Donation

The final aspect of the Settlement is the cy pres donation, providing that any unclaimed, undistributed or undistributable monies in the settlement fund would be split equally among the Senior Law Center and Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania.FN86 Although "'the use of a cy pres *756 distribution remains controversial and unsettled in an adjudicated class action context, courts are not in disagreement that cy pres distributions are proper in connection with a class settlement, subject to court approval of the particular application of the funds.'" FN87 The Court approves this cy pres donation to these particular organizations for the benefit of the Class. Thus, the Court will grant Plaintiff's Motion for final approval of the Settlement.

In re Janney Montgomery Scott LLC Financial Consultant Litigation, No. Civ.A.06-3202, 2009 WL 2137224, at *11 (E.D.Pa. July 16, 2009) (Schiller, J.)

V. THE CY PRES DONATION

The settlement provides that if otherwise eligible class members fail to cash their settlement checks the total amount of these checks shall be set aside. (Stipulation ¶¶ 2.3.2 & 2.9.3.) If this amount exceeds \$50,000, the amount over \$50,000 shall be redistributed on a proportional basis to those class members who cashed their checks. (Id.) Any amount less than \$50,000 will be distributed to a charity chosen by the Court from a list of three charities jointly submitted by the parties' counsel for the Court's consideration. (Id.)

As recognized by a leading class action treatise, "[w]hile the use of a cy pres distribution remains controversial and unsettled in an adjudicated class action context, courts are not in disagreement that cy pres distributions are proper in connection with a class settlement, subject to court approval of the particular application of the funds." 4 Newberg § 11.20. Accordingly, "even in circuits that have ruled that cy pres or fluid class recovery distributions are not valid in contested adjudications, these distributions have obtained a stamp of approval as part of a class settlement." Id.; see also Coppolino v. Total CallIntern., Inc., 588 F.Supp.2d 594,605 (D.N.J.2008) (noting that "cy pres distributions are permitted in situations where class recovery cannot feasibly be distributed to individual class members or where unclaimed funds remain following distribution to the class

...."); In re Linerboard Antitrust Litig., MDL No. 1261, 2008 WL 4542669 (E.D.Pa. Oct. 3, 2008) (directing distribution of remaining class funds as a cy pres donation). The Court therefore approves the Stipulation's provision for the charitable donation of unclaimed funds that amount to less than \$50,000. If necessary, the parties are directed, following the determination of the amount of the settlement fund associated with checks that are not properly or timely negotiated, to motion for the Court's approval of a charitable donation.

Perry v. FleetBoston Financial Corp., 229 F.R.D. 105, 117–18 (E.D. Pa. 2005) (Schiller, J.)

V. THE CY PRES DONATION

One portion of the settlement warrants special examination: the provision for a \$50,000 cy pres donation to an "appropriate non-profit, legal, charitable or educational organization or entity." (Mem. in Supp. of Final Class Settlement at 6.) Cy pres distributions, normally used to disburse the residual funds from unclaimed awards to class members, are not without their critics. See, e.g., George J. Krueger & Judd A. Serotta, Class Action Reform and the Problem of Civil Judicial Confiscation, The Legal Intelligencer, Mar. 10, 2005, at 7. Nevertheless, as recognized by a leading class action treatise, "[w]hile the use of a cy pres distribution remains controversial and unsettled in an adjudicated class action context, courts are not in disagreement that cy pres distributions are proper in connection with a class settlement, subject to court approval of the particular application of the funds." 4 Newberg § 11.20. Accordingly, "even in circuits that have ruled that cy pres or fluid class recovery distributions are not valid in contested adjudications, these distributions have obtained a stamp of approval as part of a class settlement." Id.; see also Does I v. The Gap, Inc., Civ. A. No. 01–0031, 2002 WL 1000073 (D.N. Mar. I. May 10, 2002) (granting preliminary approval of settlement that included cy pres fund); Six Mexican Workers v. Ariz. Citrus Growers, 904 F.2d 1301, 1305 (9th Cir.1990) ("Federal courts have frequently approved this remedy in the settlement of class actions where proof of individual claims would be burdensome or distribution of damages costly.").

A cy pres donation, as part of the settlement in the instant litigation, is appropriate. The individual claims of the class members are quite small, perhaps too small to justify individual litigation. "[C]onsumer wrongs often result in claims that are too small to justify individual litigation. In such cases, unless an effective class action right is available, no judicial means of individual redress would be available as a practical matter." *118 2 *118 Newberg § 5:48. Under these circumstances, rather than allowing possible wrongdoing to continue unabated, recovery under a cy pres theory helps address those wrongs. Id.; see also In the Matter of Mexico Money Transfer Litig., 267 F.3d 743 (7th Cir.2001) (affirming adequacy of settlement when class members received no cash benefits but, inter alia, "cy pres relief" to organizations that assist the Mexican–American community).

This litigation seeks to remedy a problem that does not lend itself to large money damages; without the tool of class action litigation this problem might go unaddressed. Still, the dearth of money damages available for individual class members leads to potential distribution problems, and could easily become an obstacle to settlement. Furthermore, by ordering that the cy pres donation be made to the Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance Project and the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Delaware Valley, whose aims include representing indigent clients seeking to obtain the protection of the bankruptcy court and educating the public about the responsible use of credit, respectively, the settlement will help address the problems that necessitated the filing of this lawsuit originally. Therefore, a cy pres distribution, as part of the overall settlement, is a creative and useful means of achieving a fair and reasonable resolution.

Schwartz v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Ltd., 362 F. Supp. 2d 574, 576–77 (E.D. Pa. 2005) (Robreno, J.).

To determine how the funds should be distributed, the parties suggest that the Court apply cy pres principles. "The cy pres doctrine originated as a rule of construction to save a testamentary charitable gift that would otherwise fail, allowing 'the next best use of the funds to satisfy the testator's intent as near as possible.' "In re Airline Ticket Comm'n Antitrust Litig., 268 F.3d 619, 625 (8th Cir.2001) ("Airline Ticket I") (citation omitted). A court may also utilize cy pres principles to distribute unclaimed funds from a class action settlement. See In re Airline Ticket Comm'n Antitrust Litig., 307 F.3d 679, 682 (8th Cir.2002) ("Airline Ticket II"). In so doing, the court should consider (1) the objectives of the underlying statute(s), (2) the nature of the underlying suit, (3) the interests of the class members, and (4) the geographic scope of the case. See id.

- [3] Given that the settlement agreement in this case did not address the disposition of excess funds, that the defendants have waived any claim to a reversionary interest in the unclaimed funds,FN1 and considering the circumstances of this case, the Court will apply cy pres teachings in determining how the excess funds should be distributed.
- [4] To begin, the plaintiffs' proposed distribution must be rejected. First, distribution of the excess funds to a student legal clinic is not needed to promote the policies of the Sherman and Clayton Acts, the underlying statutes at issue in this case. These venerable statutes, particularly the Sherman Act, which has been called "our charter of economic freedom," strive to prevent monopolistic and collusive behavior on the part of economic entities which harms consumers and distorts the operation of a free market.

To this end, the Acts themselves provide powerful incentives for private enforcement through treble damage awards and recovery of attorneys' fees to prevailing parties. This private enforcement scheme has been pursued diligently

since at least the time of the Electrical Equipment Cases some forty years ago (which originated in this very district) by a sophisticated plaintiff bar. No suggestion is made that, at this time, meritorious antitrust cases lie dormant for lack of adequate legal representation or that an appreciable increase in enforcement of the antitrust laws is likely to result from bestowing upon a student legal clinic the benefits of the excess funds.

Second, the distribution to either a law school's legal clinic or a charter school for gifted underprivileged students does not touch upon the subject matter of the law suit (football or sports-related activities). Third, there is no evidence that yet a further reminder by way of publication in a newspaper of national circulation will result in the filing of any significant number of additional claims. Fourth, while the class and the geographic scope of the law suit is nationwide, the relief proposed by plaintiffs would be limited to organizations based in the Philadelphia area.

On the other hand, the defendants' proposal is far from a perfect fit under cy pres principles. Clearly, distribution to the NFL YET Centers would not further the goals of the antitrust laws. Yet, at least the defendants' proposed donee has some involvement in the same area of commerce as the subject matter of the law suit (football or sports-related activities), and the ultimate beneficiaries, unlike the ultimate beneficiaries of the plaintiffs' proposed distribution, are located throughout the country. Under the circumstances and given the alternatives presented to the Court, the Court concludes that the NFL YET Centers best satisfy cy pres principles.

The Court also concludes that payment of the excess funds to the members of the class is impractical (i.e., after administrative costs, each member would receive approximately \$3.50), and that escheat to the federal government would serve no public purpose. Finally, the Court will decline the suggestion that it exercise "discretion" and select a done other than those suggested by the parties.

III.

For all the aforesaid reasons, the excess funds in the amount of \$436,000 will be paid to the NFL YET Centers. An appropriate order follows.